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## Long Beach Man Sentenced for Assault, Hate Crime

A 19-year-old Long Beach man pleaded no contest today to a hate crime assault on a teenager, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Bryan Blancas (dob 9/8/00) entered the plea to one felony count of assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury. He also admitted to allegations that the crime was a hate crime and was committed to benefit a criminal street gang.

Blancas was immediately sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Daniel Lowenthal to eight years in state prison.

On May 15, Blancas and his friends confronted a 16-year-old African American teen. When the victim attempted to flee, Blancas knocked the victim to the ground and punched and kicked him multiple times in the head, face and torso, according to prosecutors.

Blancas was arrested May 21 in Long Beach.

The case was investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.